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FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Nomenclature of an *Urodacus* Scorpion from Western Australia.—When the late Mr. L. Glauert discovered that an *Urodacus* scorpion from Broome had been described as *U. granifrons* Kraepelin, 1916 (*Ark. Zool.*, 10 (2): 39-42), and that the name was preoccupied by another species, *U. granifrons* Pocock, 1898 (*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, (7) 2 (7): 62-63), which was from the Geraldton area, he (Glauert, 1963: *W. Aust. Nat.*, 8 (6): 134-135) proposed the replacement name *U. kraepelini* Glauert, 1963, for K. Kraepelin's *U. granifrons* from Broome.

Unfortunately, Glauert had overlooked the fact that, in a somewhat inaccessible paper in Japanese, H. Takashima (*Acta Arach.*, Tokyo, 9 (3/4), 1945: 87-88) had discovered this same case of preoccupation and proposed the same specific name, *kraepelini*, as a replacement name.

This species of *Urodacus* from Broome should therefore be referred to not as *U. kraepelini* Glauert, 1963, but as *U. kraepelini* Takashima, 1945.

—L. E. KOCH, W.A. Museum, Perth.

Second Record of a Ringed Arctic Tern in South-Western Australia.—The Arctic Tern *(Sterna maerura)* breeds in the Arctic and Temperate regions of northern Europe and America and makes a trans-equatorial migration to Antarctic seas during the southern summer. Occasionally birds which perish on either the outward or return passage are washed ashore in southern Australia. On May 15, 1956, a bird was found at Naval Base, south of Fremantle, which carried a Russian leg-ring showing that it had been marked as a juvenile on July 5, the previous year, on the White Sea, about 125 miles south of Murmansk (G. M. Dunnet, *C.S.I.R.O. Wildlife Res.*, 1, 1956: 134).

Now a second similar case may be recorded. On June 10, 1963, a ringed Arctic Tern was found by Mr. H. W. Nessworthy, of Mandurah, on the beach at Madora Bay (35 miles south of Fremantle). The ring bore the inscription of the State Natural History Museum, Stockholm, Sweden (no. 4007833), and it was learnt from the Officer-in-Charge of the Swedish Bird Ringing Centre that the bird had been ringed as a nestling on June 27, 1962, on the islet of Ekholmen (Lat. 59° 10′ N., Long. 19° 00′ E.) in the Archipelago of Stockholm, province of Södermanland, Sweden.

Thus both the Russian and Swedish ringed birds had succumbed on their way north after their first season in the Antarctic.

The body of the Mandurah bird was retrieved and is preserved as a study skin at the W.A. Museum (No. A9210). Its particulars are: ♀, weight, 72 gm.; length, 345 mm.; wing, 251; tail, 144; culmen, 28.2; tarsus, 15; middle toe and claw, 23.

—D. L. SERVENTY, Nedlands.

Travels of a Ringed Wedge-tailed Eagle and a White-faced Heron.—On June 20, 1963, a young Wedge-tailed Eagle *(Aquila audax)* was caught taking lambs from a farm property at Coomberdale. It was trapped and transferred to the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Wildlife Research laboratory at Nedlands for repair of an injured foot and subsequent release in a less inhabited area.

The eagle's foot healed well and the bird was taken to Karragullen on June 29, 1963, for release, bearing C.S.I.R.O. band No. 150-01210. On the ninth day after release, July 8, the young bird was shot and killed on a property just east of Beverley. This represents a flight of fifty odd miles direct in a due easterly direction in eight full days of freedom after a period of captivity.

Of greater surprise were the flight details of a four-month-old White-faced Heron *(Ardea novae-hollandiae)* earlier this year (1963). The heron had fallen from its nest in Cloverdale in October 1962, when approximately two weeks old. It was hand-raised in Dalkeith. On January 3, 1963, bearing C.S.I.R.O. band No. 100-02112, the young bird, healthy and of normal appearance, was transported to Northam for release by the Mortlock River. Since it had previously been maintained in a long enclosure which was too low-roofed to allow free flight, the release at Northam represented the bird's first real attempt at flying.

Upon the opening of the cage door the heron demonstrated immediate prowess in good, strong flight, and was left at the river with a pair of adult White-faced Herons in the near vicinity. Food in the form of *Gambusia* was abundant in the large pools the drying river had left.

On January 6, 1963, exactly three days later, the young heron flew into a householder's garden just south of Darlington and proceeded to harry the fish in an ornamental pond. Being relatively tame the bird was caught easily by a young boy, the C.S.I.R.O. was notified and we immediately collected the heron, which was lively and in perfect condition.

Thus, in three days, on its first flight, this heron had covered a distance of 45 miles in the direction of its birthplace, a south-westerly flight from an area with which it was absolutely unacquainted. The bird was later released at Coolup, still bearing band 100-02112, and flew off in the company of about 40 resident White-faced Herons.

—C. A. NICHOLLS, Nedlands

Probable Seed Reproduction in the Orchid, *Pterostylis vittata*.—Though the pollination mechanisms of terrestrial orchids are extraordinarily elaborate and seed is set freely, attempts at germination by horticulturists are almost always doomed to failure. A deter-